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 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 2445
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 129298

FOR UNESCO, FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM SENATOR PELL

E.O. 12356: NA

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF DAMAGE TO ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES AT TYRE

1. SENATOR PELL HAS ASKED THAT WE PASS THE FOLLOWING
 MESSAGE:

BEGIN TEXT:

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
 SAFEGUARDING OF TYRE, HEADQUARTERED IN PARIS, THAT DEFENSE
 WORKS OF ISRAELI FORCES IN LEBANON HAVE CAUSED DESTRUCTION
 OF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES AT TYRE, PARTICULARLY IN AREA OF
 NECROPOLIS. ASSOCIATION'S INFORMATION COMES FROM
 RESIDENCE OF TYRE AND LEBANESE PRESS, AND ASSOCIATION HAS
 LODGED FORMAL PROTEST WITH UNESCO AND OTHER UN AGENCIES
 URGING THAT ISRAELI ACTIVITIES CEASE. ACCORDING TO PRESS
 REPORTS, LEBANESE MINISTER OF TOURISM, IBRAHIM HALAQUI,
 HAS ALSO PROTESTED TO UNESCO CITING ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION
 OF A MILITARY ROAD THROUGH RUINS OF ANCIENT TYRE,
 VANDALISM AND THEFTS OF ARTIFACTS.

WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF CHARGES DESCRIBED
 ABOVE AS WELL AS INFORMATION RE WHETHER IDF HAS CEASED OR
 WILL CEASE ALLEGED ACTIVITIES. IF YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE,
 PLEASE CONVEY MY CONCERN TO IDF, AS I HAD EARLIER BEEN-
 ASSURED BY ISRAELI EMBASSY THAT IDF WAS TAKING PARTICULAR
 CARE TO PROTECT TYRE ANTIQUITIES.

END TEXT. SHULTZ
 END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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